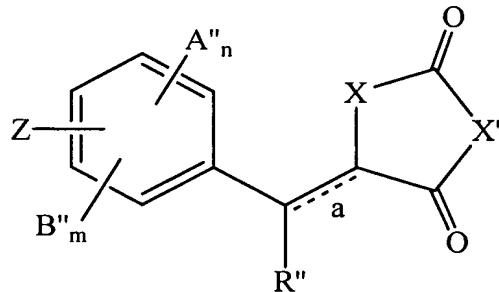


Amendments to the Claims:

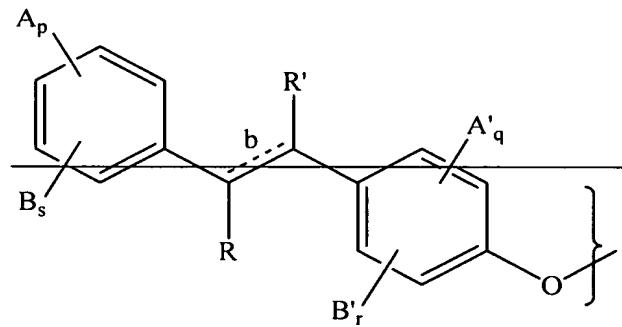
The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by the following Formula 1:

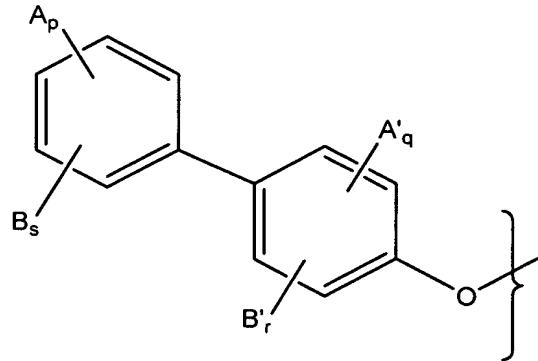


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a, b, and c represent a double bonds bond which may be present or absent; when

present, the double bonds bond may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters stereocenter may have the R- or S- configuration;

~~R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R"'; -NH₂; -NHR"'; -OH; -OR"'; CONR₂'''"; a halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

~~R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂, -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH, -OR'''; a halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

~~R''' independently represents linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

~~R'''' independently represent a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;~~

~~Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counterion;~~

~~A, A' and A'' A and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;~~

~~B, B' and B'' B and B' each independently represent C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl, aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

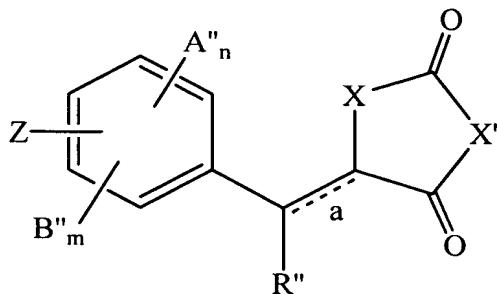
~~or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' or A' and B' jointly independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and~~

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

2. (Cancelled)

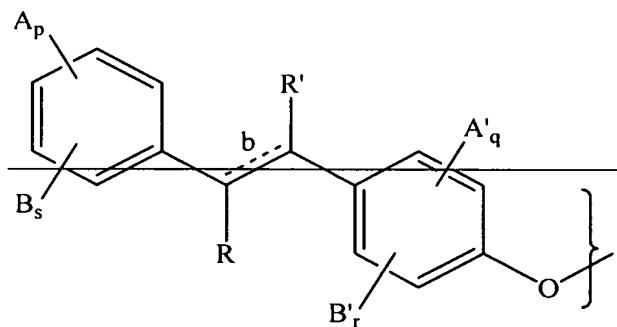
3. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

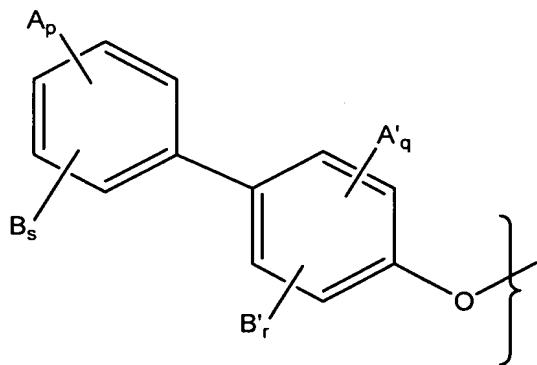


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a, b, and c represent a represents a double bonds bond which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds bond may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters stereocenter may have the R- or S- configuration;

Amendment dated June 4, 2008

Page 6

~~R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; CO₂Z'; CO₂R'''; NH₂; NHR'''; OH; OR'''; CONR₂'''~~; a halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''', -NH₂, -NHR'''', -NR₂'''', -OH, -OR'''', a halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -(CH₂)_x-Ar-, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

~~R'''' independently represent a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂''' represents a cyclic moiety;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counterion;

A, A' and A" A and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" B and B' each independently represent C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl, aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

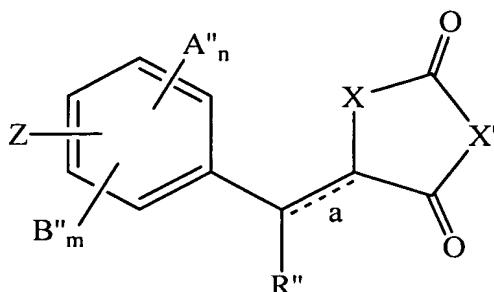
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" or A' and B' jointly independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'''', -O-, or -S-;

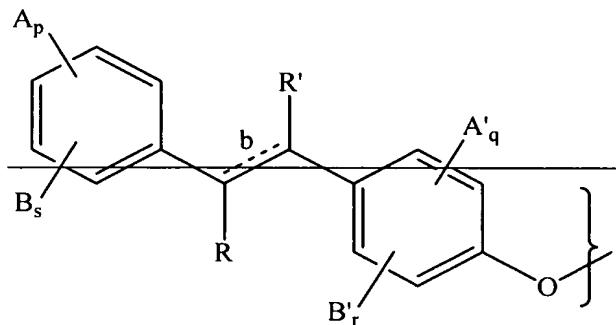
in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

4. (Cancelled)

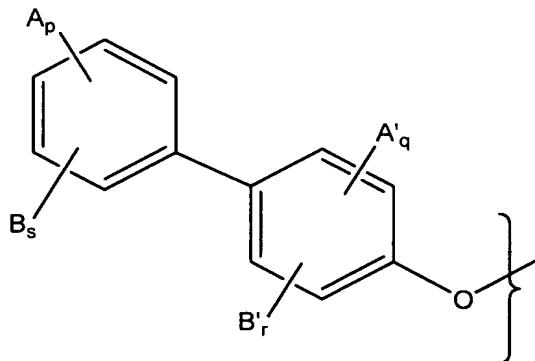
5. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method of treating diabetes comprising:
administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically
effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a, b, and c represent a represents a double bonds bond which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds bond may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters stereocenter may have the R- or S- configuration;

~~R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; CO₂Z'; CO₂R"'; NH₂; NHR"'; OH; OR"'; CONR₂'''~~; a

~~halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'", -NH₂, -NHR'", -NR₂"', -OH, -OR"', ~~a~~ halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'" independently represents linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

~~R"" independently represent a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂"" represents a cyclic moiety;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counterion;

~~A, A' and A" A and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;~~

~~B, B' and B" B and B' each independently represent C₂-C₂₀ alkanoyl; aroyl, aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

~~or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" or A' and B' jointly independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and~~

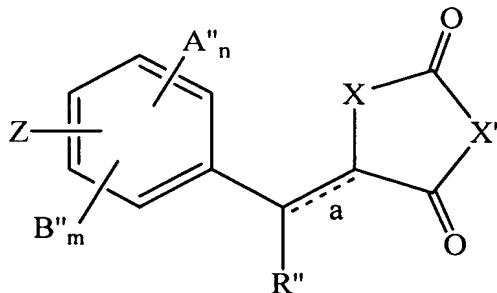
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-;

in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

6. (Cancelled).

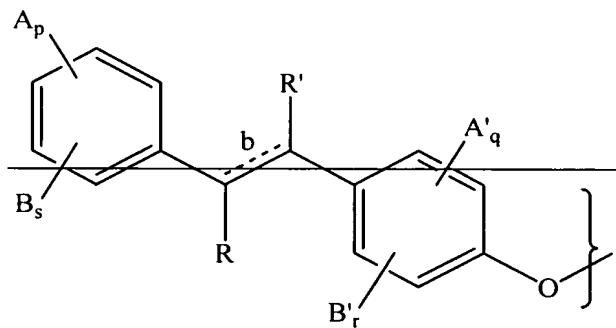
7. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method of treating inflammation or inflammatory disease comprising:

administering to a subject suffering from such condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

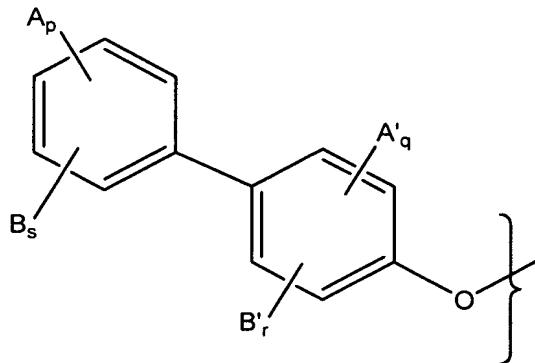


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a, b, and c represent a represents a double bonds bond which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds bond may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters stereocenter may have the R- or S- configuration;

~~R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; CO₂Z'; CO₂R'''; NH₂; NHR'''; OH; OR'''; CONR₂'''~~; a

~~halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'", -NH₂, -NHR'", -NR₂"', -OH, -OR"', a halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'" independently represents linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

~~R"" independently represent a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂"' represents a cyclic moiety;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counterion;

~~A, A' and A" A and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;~~

~~B, B' and B" B and B' each independently represent C₂-C₂₀ alkanoyl; aroyl, aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

~~or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" or A' and B' jointly independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and~~

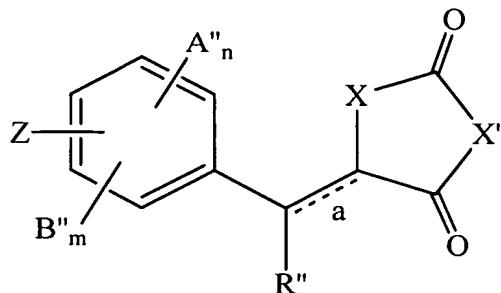
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-;

in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

8. (Cancelled).

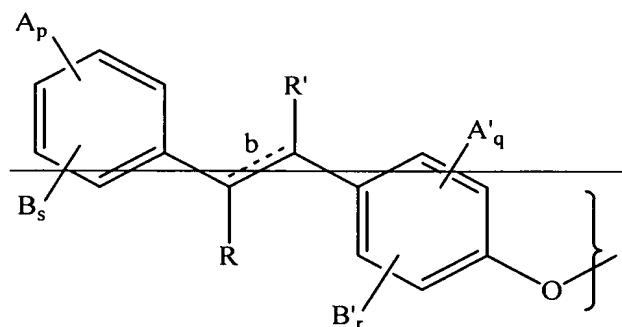
9. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method of treating immunological disease comprising:

administering to a subject suffering from an immunological disease, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

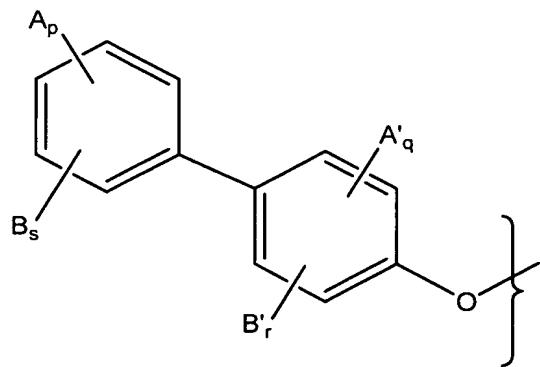


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a, b, and c represent a represents a double bonds bond which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds bond may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters stereocenter may have the R- or S- configuration;

~~R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; CO₂Z'; CO₂R'''; NH₂; NHR'''; OH; OR'''; CONR₂'''~~; a

~~halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'", -NH₂, -NHR'", -NR₂"', -OH, -OR"', a halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

~~R"" independently represent a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂"" represents a cyclic moiety;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counterion;

~~A, A' and A" A and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;~~

~~B, B' and B" B and B' each independently represent C₂-C₂₀ alkanoyl; aroyl, aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, ~~A' and B' jointly, or A" and B"~~ or A' and B' jointly independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-;

in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting the activity of TNF-alpha, IL-1, IL-6 or COX-2 which comprises administering to a host in need of such inhibition an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

12. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of inhibiting the undesired action of cytokine cytokines or cyclooxygenase which comprises administering to a host in need of such inhibition an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

13. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of treating a disease mediated by cytokines or cyclooxygenase which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

14. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of treating insulin resistance which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

15. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of treating hyperlipidemia which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

16. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of treating coronary heart disease which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

17. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of treating multiple sclerosis which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

18. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method of treating cancer which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or claim 2.

19. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

~~2-(4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]phenyl)-3-p-tolyacrylic acid,~~

~~2-(4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]phenyl)-3-p-tolyacrylic acid,~~

~~2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]3-p-tolylacrylic acid methyl ester,~~

~~3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]acrylic acid,~~

~~3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]acrylic acid,~~

~~3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]acrylic acid methyl ester,~~

~~5-(4-[2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1-(morpholine-4-carbonyl)vinyl]phenoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-(4-[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-vinyl]phenoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-(4-[2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-vinyl]phenoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-[4-(4'-methoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzylidene]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-[4-(4'-methoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-[4-(2',4'-dimethoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzylidene]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione, and~~

~~5-[4-(3',5'-dimethoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione~~

~~5-[4-(2',4'-dimethoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione.~~

20. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of:

~~2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]3-p-tolylacrylic acid,~~

~~2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]3-p-tolylacrylic acid,~~

~~2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]3-p-tolylacrylic acid methyl ester,~~

~~3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]acrylic acid,~~

~~3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]acrylic acid,~~

~~3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-[4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)phenoxy]phenyl]acrylic acid methyl ester,~~

~~5-(4-[2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1-(morpholine-4-carbonyl)vinyl]phenoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-(4-[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-vinyl]phenoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-(4-[2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-vinyl]phenoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,~~

~~5-[4-(4'-methoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzylidene]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione;~~

~~5-[4-(4'-methoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione;~~

5-[4-(2',4'-dimethoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzylidene]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione; and

5-[4-(3',5'-dimethoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione

5-[4-(2',4'-Dimethoxybiphenyl-3-yloxy)-benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione,

together with a physiologically acceptable carrier therefore.

21. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for treating diabetes comprising: co-administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or ~~claim 2~~ and an agent selected from the group consisting of:

insulin or an insulin mimetic,

a sulfonylurea or other insulin secretagogue,

a thiazolidinedione,

a fibrate or other PPAR-alpha agonist,

a PPAR-delta agonist,

a biguanide,

a statin or other hydroxymethylglutaryl (HMG) CoA reductase inhibitor,

an alpha-glucosidase inhibitor,

a bile-acid binding resin,

apoA1,

niacin,

probucol,

and nicotinic acid.

22. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for treating inflammatory or immunological disease, comprising: co-administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or ~~claim 2~~ and an agent selected from the group consisting of:

a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID),

a cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor,

a corticosteroid or other immunosuppressive agent,

a disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD),

a TNF-alpha inhibitor,

other cytokine inhibitor,

other immune modulating agent,

and a narcotic agent.

23-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein X represents -S-; and X' represents >NH.

26. (New) A compound according to claim 25, wherein A independently is C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy and p is 1 or 2.

27. (New) A compound according to claim 26, wherein m, n, q, r and s are zero.

28. (New) A compound according to claim 27, wherein the bond identified by a is a single bond.

29. (New) A compound according to claim 28, wherein R" represents a hydrogen atom.